

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

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1. (Currently Amended) A collapsible structure comprising:
a plurality of pole members having top ends and bottom ends;
an upper hub member to which the top ends of the pole members are pivotally attached;
a lower hub member positioned beneath the upper hub member;
a plurality of strut members having inner and outer ends, the outer end of each strut member being pivotally attached to an pole member and the inner end of each strut member being pivotally attached to the lower hub member; and,
a flexible covering disposed upon and traversing between the pole members;
said structure being alternately disposable in a) a constructed configuration wherein the lower hub member is in abutment with the upper hub member and the flexible covering is drawn taut between the pole members and b) a collapsed configuration wherein the lower hub member is a spaced distance below the upper hub member, the pole members are closer together than they are when the structure is in its constructed configuration and the flexible covering is loosely disposed between the pole members;
wherein, when the structure is in its constructed configuration, the exertion of downward pressure ^{on} the top of the hub assembly will cause the upper and lower hub members to separate from one another and the structure to assume its collapsed configuration..

2. (Currently Amended) A collapsible structure according to Claim 1 ~~wherein~~ further comprising hinged joints are formed the pole members between their upper and lower ends such that the pole members may be folded when the structure is in its collapsed configuration.

3. (Original) A collapsible structure according to Claim 1 wherein the inner ends of the strut members are elevated above the outer ends of the strut members when the structure is in its constructed configuration, thereby exerting an upward bias on the lower hub member and retaining the structure in its constructed configuration.

4. (Original) A collapsible structure according to Claim 3 wherein the application of

downward pressure on the upper hub member causes the inner ends of the strut members to move to positions that are below the outer ends of the strut members, thereby overcoming the upward bias on the lower hub member and allowing the structure to transition to its collapsed configuration.

5. (Original) A collapsible structure according to Claim 1 further comprising at least one pull cord attached to the lower hub member and extending upwardly through the upper hub member such that pulling on the pull cord pulls the lower hub member upwardly into abutting contact with the upper hub member and causes the inner ends of the strut members to elevate to positions that are above the outer ends of the strut members such that the structure will be retained in its constructed configuration.

6. (Original) A collapsible structure according to Claim 5 wherein said at least one pull cord comprises:

first and second pull cords that extend through openings formed at diametrically opposing locations in the upper hub member such that pulling of the first and second pull cords in opposite lateral directions will pull the lower hub member upwardly into abutting contact with the upper hub member and will cause the inner ends of the strut members to elevate to positions that are above the outer ends of the strut members such that the structure will be retained in its constructed configuration.

7. (Original) A collapsible structure according to Claim 1 wherein the flexible covering comprises plastic sheet.

8. (Original) A collapsible structure according to Claim 1 wherein the flexible covering comprises woven fabric.

9. (Currently Amended) A collapsible structure according to Claim 1 wherein the flexible ~~cover~~ covering is ~~attached to~~ disposed on the strut members such that when the structure is in its constructed configuration the strut members will support at least a portion of the flexible covering.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended) A collapsible structure according to Claim 1 wherein receiving channels are formed in the flexible ~~eover~~ covering and the pole members extend through the receiving channels such that the flexible ~~eover~~ covering is disposed upon and substantially supported by the pole members when the structure is in its constructed configuration.

12. (Original) A collapsible structure according to Claim 11 wherein hinged joints are formed in the pole members at locations between their top ends and their bottom ends and wherein cut-out regions are formed in the receiving channels to facilitate folding of the pole members at the hinged joints when the structure is in its collapsed configuration.

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13. (Currently Amended) A collapsible structure according to Claim 1 wherein the bottom ends of the pole members are received within receiving tabs formed at the bottom of the flexible ~~eover~~ covering.

14. (Currently Amended) A collapsible structure according to Claim 13 wherein the receiving tabs comprise pockets of material attached to the flexible ~~eover~~ covering, each said pocket of material having an opening into which the bottom end of a pole member is inserted.

15. (Original) A collapsible structure according to Claim 1 wherein the pole members bow to an arcuate configuration when the structure is in its constructed configuration.

16. (Currently Amended) A collapsible structure according to Claim 1 further comprising an entry opening formed in the flexible ~~eover~~ covering to permit entry into and exit from the interior of the collapsible structure when it is in its constructed configuration.

17. (Original) A collapsible structure according to Claim 16 further comprising a flap that is securable over the entry opening to close said entry opening when not in use.

18. (Currently Amended) A collapsible structure according to Claim 1 further comprising at least one opening in the flexible ~~eover~~ covering, said opening being covered by a removable panel.

19. (Currently Amended) A collapsible structure according the Claim 18 wherein the removable panel is attached to the flexible ~~cover~~ covering by way of a zipper.

20. (Currently Amended) A ~~multiple-unit~~ collapsible structure comprising a) at least two collapsible structures according to Claim 18 in combination with b) at least one tunnel member that has a first end and a second end and a passageway extending therethrough, the first end of said tunnel member being attachable to an opening created by removal of the removable panel from one collapsible structure and the second end of said tunnel member being attachable to an opening created by removal of the removable panel from another collapsible structure.

21. (Currently Amended) A collapsible structure according to Claim 1 further comprising decorative markings formed on the outside of the flexible ~~cover~~ covering.

22. (Currently Amended) A ~~multiple-unit~~ collapsible structure according to Claim 20 further comprising decorative markings formed on the outside of the flexible ~~cover~~ covering of at least one of the collapsible structures.

23. (Original) A collapsible structure according to Claim 21 wherein the decorative markings impart the appearance of an animal or insect to the collapsible structure when in its constructed configuration.

24. (Original) A collapsible structure according to Claim 23 wherein an entry opening is formed in at least one of the collapsible structures and the decorative markings create the appearance of an open mouth about the entry opening.

25. (Cancelled)
